

MichiganGenealogist

Genealogy news from the Department of History, Arts and Libraries

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Spring is just around the corner, so get out your traveling shoes and start planning your research visits. With the coming of spring, the Library of Michigan is delighted to make a big announcement.

We have recently entered into an agreement with the Generations Network (Ancestry.com) to digitize Michigan death records covering the years 1897-1920. Funding from the Talbert and Leota Abrams Foundation is making this digitization project possible. The death records database will be indexed and easily searchable. All scanned images will be provided for FREE on the Library of Michigan's Web site. Users from across the country will be able to access the database and download death records from the comfort of their home computer.

Unfortunately, the microfilmed vital records (1897-1920) will be off the shelf for several months. The project is scheduled to be completed in late July 2008. We ask that researchers be patient while the records are out of the Library being digitized, and we are confident that the digitized versions of these important records will be well worth the wait. If you have questions about the digitization project timeline, do not hesitate to ask staff for clarifications.

We are committed to adding new digital content on an annual basis. These projects will help to make the Abrams Collection an irreplaceable Web destination, as well as helping to maintain the collection as one of the best family history collections in the country. The digital collections are not intended to replace the library experience, but traveling to Lansing is difficult for many researchers. We hope to open access to our genealogical holdings as broadly as possible, and that the death records project will attract new researchers and make tracking down troublesome ancestors less aggravating.

We appreciate the continued support of Michigan's genealogical community and continue to look for new and better ways to serve you. Let us know if there is anything we can do to make your visits to the Library more pleasant and productive.

Happy searching!

Randy Riley
Special Collections Manager



Library of Michigan Staff Share Expertise at Programs Across the State

Library of Michigan staff members will be presenting the following programs at other venues around the state this spring:

- April 3 Kris Rzepczynski presents “Genealogy Research at the Library of Michigan”
Livingston County Genealogical Society, Howell
- April 5 Kris Rzepczynski presents “Research State Census Records”
Daughters of the American Revolution: Stoney Creek Chapter, Rochester
- April 10 Kris Rzepczynski presents “The Circle of Life: Research Michigan Vital Records”
Ingham County Genealogical Society, Mason
- April 23 Kris Rzepczynski presents “Navigating the 1890 Gap: Research State Census Records”
Mid-Michigan Genealogical Society, Lansing
- May 10 Kris Rzepczynski presents “Genealogy Research at the Library of Michigan,”
“Coming to America: Research Ships’ Passenger Lists” and “The Circle of Life:
Research With Michigan Vital Records”
Family History Center Seminar, East Lansing
- May 21 Kris Rzepczynski presents “Genealogy and Local History at Your Library”
Beginning Workshop, Petoskey - for library staff
- June 13 Kris Rzepczynski presents “Becoming American: Research Naturalization
Records,” “African-American Genealogy: Records and Resources” and
“Expanding Your Research: Libraries and Online Databases”
Washtenaw Community College Genealogy Seminar, Ann Arbor

Grand Rapids Herald Now Available at the Library

by Kris Rzepczynski, Michigan/Genealogy coordinator

The Library of Michigan recently acquired a substantial run of the *Grand Rapids Herald* from 1922-1959, totaling more than 450 rolls of microfilm. With this recent addition, the Library now has a collection of this defunct newspaper from 1898 to 1959. More importantly, our run covers all of the records indexed in the Western Michigan Genealogical Society’s outstanding online obituary index for the Grand Rapids area from 1910 to the present [<http://data.wmgs.org/Newspapers/>]. These microfilms, and all of our microfilm Michigan newspaper collection, are available to Michigan libraries via interlibrary loan (ILL).

Grand Rapids Herald. Grand Rapids, MI. 1898-1959.
Microfilm Newspapers

Not only an important tool for historical research in local communities, newspapers also contain significant genealogical value, including obituaries, weddings, military honors, society and gossip news, local disasters, probate notices, fraternal organizations, advertisements and much more. Similar online indexes to local newspapers are available for a number of other Michigan communities, including Battle Creek, Brighton, Charlevoix, Chelsea, Holland, Kalamazoo, Lansing and Saginaw. Many of the published indexes – and the newspapers themselves – are available on-site at the Library of Michigan, as well as through the ILL network.

What's New at the Library of Michigan?

By Charles Hagler, reference librarian

Do you want to know what new Michigan and genealogy materials have been added to the Library of Michigan's collection? Access to ANSWER, our online catalog, is available on the Internet at <http://answercat.org>. You can view new Michigan and genealogy books each month by clicking on the "Check for New Books" button at the bottom of the ANSWER menu page.

Please note, many of our genealogical resources are part of the non-circulating collection and are only available for on-site use at the Library. ANSWER does not provide access to periodical articles, microforms, or CD-ROM and Internet databases, but does indicate the location and call number where the item can be found in the Library of Michigan.

Here are a few notable titles that have arrived since the last issue of *Michigan Genealogist*:

Returns of Killed and Wounded in Battles or Engagements with Indians and British and Mexican troops, 1790-1848, compiled by Lt. Col. J. H. Eaton. 1 reel. Washington, D.C. : National Archives and Records Administration, 1999.

Microfilm E 338 .E38 1999

"Reproduced on this single roll of microfilm is the original compilation of returns prepared by Lt. Col. J. H. Eaton, 3rd U.S. Infantry, 1850-1851, for the period 1790-1848 and a partial copy, covering the years 1790-1842, prepared in 1896 by the Record and Pension Office of the War Department. Both volumes give place of battle, date, name of commander of troops, troops engaged, number of killed and wounded and remarks. The remarks usually include references to sources, the names of officers killed, and a summary of the engagement." (Introduction)

Manifests of Alien Arrivals at Port Huron, Michigan, February 1902 - December 1954, compiled by Claire Prechtel-Kluskens. 41 reels. Washington, D.C. : National Archives and Records Administration, 2007.

Microfilm F 565 .M372 2007

Certificates of Enrollment Issued for Merchant Vessels at Oswego, New York, 1815-1911. 6 reels. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2007.

Microfilm VK 24 .N7 C476 2007

Certificates of enrollment, registration or license were known collectively as vessel documents. They were issued to managing owners or masters after proper measurement and proof of place and date of construction were provided as evidence that vessels of five-ton or greater capacity were entitled to rights and privileges of American-documented vessels. More information can be found at <http://www.archives.gov/research/microfilm/m2107.pdf>.

Vessel and Organization Indexes to U. S. Navy Muster Rolls, 1892-1938, compiled by Rebecca Livingston and Claire Prechtel-Kluskens. 2 reels. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2007.

Microfilm VA 61 .L58 2007

"The cards indicate the dates for which muster rolls are extant for each U.S. Navy vessel, and, if stationed at a foreign port, it may indicate the date and place." (Introduction)

Explore Historic U.S. Records at Footnote.com

by Karen White, reference librarian

Launched just a year ago, Footnote.com is an exciting online repository subscription for genealogists and historians now available for searching at the Library of Michigan. It provides high-quality scanned images of original historic documents, offering millions of documents that are not available anywhere else online, including:

- Naturalization records
- Revolutionary War documents
- Continental Congress documents
- FBI reports
- Post-Civil War records of the Southern Claims Commission
- A name index to the Civil War and later Pension Claims Records
- The complete Revolutionary War Pension Applications documents
- The United States versus The Amistad records from 1841
- Newspapers and city directories
- Civil War photographs by Matthew B. Brady
- Navy Widows' Certificates
- Many holdings of the Pennsylvania State Archives

Many of the documents in this interactive repository are from the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, meaning that the images are also available through the National Archives Web site, www.archives.gov.

Footnote.com is a work in progress. Twenty-seven million documents are already available, and every month millions more images are added. The images are searchable, downloadable and printable.

The home page is divided into two main categories, original documents and member-contributed "story pages." Both categories can be searched simultaneously or separately. Story pages allow users to create a simple Web page with point-and-click editing. Users can upload and post their own historical documents and photos for free, track their research and even create a personal profile if they wish.

One of the unique features of Footnote.com is the ability to annotate and/or add comments to any individual document page. Users can highlight a name, place or date and add an annotation. Comments can be added to post corrections or add additional information for anyone else who views the same image.

Footnote.com is getting rave reviews in the genealogy world. Dick Eastman has written extensively in his online newsletter blog.eogn.com, about Footnote.com. He said, "Every time I start looking, I find something that I had not seen before."

The Library of Michigan has a subscription to Footnote.com, so anyone who comes into the library can get full access to the database at no charge. If one chooses to use it from home, search results are free, although a subscription is needed to view, print and save most of the actual document images. A seven-day free trial is offered.



Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory: A Must-See Resource for Family History Researchers

By Gloriane Peck, special collections librarian

Its name gives little indication of the many treasures within, but the *Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory* is filled with the kinds of details genealogists seek to flesh out the stories of their ancestors.

The Library of Michigan has about 30 editions of the *Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory* between the years 1860 and 1931-32. These volumes are shelved in the Michigan Collection, with the call number HC 107 .M5 .S752z. For complete holdings information, please see the ANSWER catalog record at <http://magic.msu.edu/record=b4423257a>.

The publishers set out to include descriptions of “every city, village and hamlet in the state, with lists of the firms and individuals doing business at each.” (1875 edition, preface) While this information may have helped people contact one another back then, it is now helpful for family and local history researchers wanting to learn more about even the smallest communities. This 1875 description of Fawn River provides a glimpse at village life:

“A village of some 75 inhabitants, situated on a stream of the same name, in the southeast part of St. Joseph county. There are here a flouring mill, a woolen mill and a broom factory. Wheat, corn, potatoes and fruit are cultivated in the vicinity. Distance from Centerville the county seat 18 miles. Ship to Sturgis, 5 miles west. Fawn River has a daily mail. D.S. Buck, postmaster.” (1875 edition, page 351)

In contrast to this brief description, the description of Ionia in the 1893-94 directory is several paragraphs. This introduction to the county seat of the county by the same name is much more extensive, as this city is bigger and more development has occurred. In addition to information about the local business community, a listing of churches by denomination and a description of the schools, the narrative includes highlights such as “a well-equipped fire department, a handsome court house, costing \$63,000, first-class hotels, 2 daily and 3 weekly newspapers, etc. ... The city is lighted by electricity.” (1893-94 edition, page 917)

About 20 years later, a sign of changing times shows in a tiny description appearing in the 1915 edition, carrying information about a locale called Aarwood: “A discontinued postoffice in Kalkaska county. Send mail to Rapid City.” (page 187)

While these descriptions provide a sense of each community, it is the directory listings that provide the dates and places vital to genealogy research. These descriptions from the Ionia listing in the 1893-94 directory demonstrate the information included:

- Buell Rev James I (Methodist) (page 918)
- Cochrane & Miller Furniture Co, D W Miller Pres, C W Parsons Sec (page 918)
- Drake, Fayette M, asst supt D, L & N RR (page 918)
- Ewer Mrs Amy, dressmaker (page 918)
- National Loan and Investment Company of Detroit, Mich. Officers of Ionia Advisory Board: Edward F Gallagher Pres, Terry Dolan Vice-Pres, W E Kelsey Sec and Treas, George E Nichols Attorney (page 921)

continued

As Michigan's cities grew, so too did the amount of detail in the directory listings. This example from the 1915-16 directory's Detroit listing includes an overview of the company and a reference to its advertisement in the directory:

- Brown John W Mnfg Co The (Columbus O) W G Morley Sales Mngr, Mnfrs of Automobile Lamps, Generators, Etc, 411 Union Trust Bldg, Tel Cadillac 3181 (See page 1514) (page 481)
- A quarter-page ad on page 1514 features the company name, address and phone number as it is given in the directory. But it also gives the full name of W G Morley, "Walter G Morley, Sales Manager," and more information about company: "Electric, Acetylene Gas and Oil Lamps for Motor Cars and Trucks." (page 1514)

While company entries seem more prevalent as time went on, listings for individuals still are included. This example shows how users may cross-reference personal and business entries:

- Gillis Gaylord W, Sec-Treas Edson, Moore & Co, 494-514 Fort w, Tel West 2870 (page 496)
- A look at the company listing offers more clues about Mr. Gillis' life:
 - Edson, Moore & Co, Abram P Sherrill Pres, James S Meredith First Vice-Pres, Frederick Stockwell Second Vice-Pres, Gaylord W Gillis Sec and Treas, Wholesale Dry Goods 494-514 Fort w, Tel West 2870 (See page 1585) (page 479)
- Page 1585 doesn't show an ad for this company, but a check of the index to advertisers shows it's actually on page 1583. The ad doesn't give any additional information, but regardless may be interesting to a family historian looking at connections to this company.

A "Classified Directory" rounds out the listings by city. This directory is equivalent to today's Yellow Pages, with a list of "all Trades, Professions and Pursuits in the State of Michigan" arranged alphabetically by post office (page 737). Classifications from the 1875 directory range from "baking powder manufacturers," of which there are two (both in Detroit), to "general stores," which is a several-page listing, with "saddle and harness makers" and "wool dealers" among the other trades.

The *Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory* also includes general information about Michigan's geography, history, resources, manufacturers and educational institutions. The Shippers' Guide includes information on railroad routes, while lists of banks and post offices certainly provided additional help to business owners. Among other specialty listings are statistics, such as salt production and miles of railroad by year; lists of county officers, such as prosecutor, treasurer, school superintendent, judge and register of deeds; valuation of state properties; and a list of newspapers, including frequency of publication, town of publication and character, such as Prohibition, Democratic, Republican, Family, Single Tax, Independent and Neutral.

Federal Documents and Genealogy: Military Records from the United States Government

by Leelyn Johnson, reference and federal documents coordinator

Part 1: Records held by the National Personnel Records Center

The military personnel records for the U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy and Marine Corps, and U.S. Coast Guard from the beginning of the 20th century through the present are held by the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) in St. Louis, Missouri, along with the health and medical records for all discharged and deceased veterans.

continued

The record in an Official Military Personnel File contains the name; unit; age or date of birth; enlistment or muster dates; date of discharge, separation, or retirement; promotion, and other notations including awards and medals; and disciplinary actions. It does not contain detailed information about the veteran's participation in military battles and engagements.

A fire in the NPRC on July 12, 1973, destroyed approximately 16-18 million of the army and air force records for personnel who served in World War I, World War II and the Korean War. Many files were reconstructed using data collected from other agencies. There is more about this fire on the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) Web site at <http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/fire-1973.html>.

NARA has all the information about requesting military records, including links to the forms used, on their Web site at <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/>. There are searchable databases from World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War on NARA's Access to Archival Databases page at <http://www.archives.gov/aad/>.

Sources available at the Library of Michigan:

Korean War Casualty List. Tiburon, CA: 2nd Infantry Division Association - Korean War Branch, 1994.

Genealogy DS 920.6 .U6 K67 1994

Neagles, James C. *U.S. Military Records: A Guide to Federal and State Sources, Colonial America to the Present*. Salt Lake City: Ancestry Inc., 1994.

Genealogy E 181 .N43 1994

Stender, Walter and Evans Walker. "The National Personnel Records Center Fire: A Study in Disaster." *The American Archivist*, Volume 37, no. 4, October 1974, page 521-544.

Online at <http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/nprc-fire.pdf>

United States. Navy Department. *State Summary of War Casualties: Michigan*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Navy, 1946.

U.S. Documents Reference N 1.34: M58

United States. War Department. *World War II Honor List of Dead and Missing: Michigan*. Washington, D.C.: War Department, 1946.

U.S. Documents Reference W 107.13: M58

Vietnam Veterans Memorial: Directory of Names. Washington, D.C.: Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, 1984.

Genealogy DS 559 .V537 1986

Federal Government Web Sites

American Battle Monuments Commission

<http://www.abmc.gov/>

Search for men (buried overseas and in the U.S. or) Missing in Action from World War I, World War II and the Korean War.

Medal of Honor Citations

<http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/moh1.htm>

Full-text listings of all Congressional Medal of Honor citations.

U.S. Army Military History Institute

<http://carlisle-www.army.mil/usamhi/>

This Army site contains hundreds of digitized military records, including regimental histories for 20th- century wars.

An Interesting Collection with an Uninteresting Title: Reports of the Bureau of Archives for the Province on Ontario 1904 – 1933

by *Edwina Morgan, special collections librarian*

It is easy to see how a person could walk right past this title on the shelf and not even notice the 22 volumes, or even see it in the catalog and dismiss it as yet another obligatory government document with little value to genealogists, and that is why it merits some attention. The title in no way does justice to the value of the content inside. Circa 1903 the provincial archivist, Alexander Fraser, outlined the scope of his bureau and its plan for collecting materials related to Ontario dating from 1763 and the close of the French Regime to 1867 and confederation. Such materials were to include all documents relevant to government but also materials relating to the social, cultural and fiscal development of the area, such as pioneer newspapers, municipal records, school documents, church records and muster rolls.

What makes this collection different from many government reports is that it includes the information discussed in transcript form. The topic of the 1906 report was Proclamations by Governors and Lieutenant Governors of Quebec and Upper Canada, and included in that volume are transcripts of all proclamations found by Fraser for the time period, covering topics from troop movements to United Empire Loyalists to Indians. In 1904, as had been outlined in 1903, Fraser had the task of covering the 1763 to 1791 time period, dealing with the beginnings of British settlement in Ontario and the core of early pioneers, the United Empire Loyalists.

Special commissioners were sent out to collect evidence from petitioners claiming loyalty and compensation from the British government. These individuals had the duty to discern who was to be compensated and took notes accordingly. Fraser included all that he could obtain from these records, originally found in archives in the United States, leaving the original spellings and margin notes intact. The excerpt below, involving a family that had been on a very common migration route when they were diverted from further expansion west, is just one of hundreds that were included.

A New Claim before Commissioner Dundas, Montreal, 1788.

Montreal, 5th
March 1788

437. Evidence on the Claim of Mary Browster, late of Huntingdon, Pensilvania

Claimt sworn:

Says she lived at Niagara in 1783.

Her late Husband, Joseph Browster was a native of Ireland, & was settled in America many years before the rebellion broke out.

In 1775 he lived in Westmoreland, Pensilvania, and was always a friend of Gt. Britain.

In Sept., 1780, he set out to get into Detroit but was killed by the Indian who had undertaken to be his guide.

She came to Detroit in 1782 with their children. She lived there until 1783, after which she lived a year at Niagara & from thence to Sorel where she now resides.

She has 3 children with her, viz., Margt, 12 years old; 2nd, Simon, ten years old; 3rd, Martha, 6 years old.

Produces Certificates from Lt.-Coll. De Peyster to Claimt's Loyalty & distress with 3 Children, having lost her husband, killed by the Indians, who was a Loyal man. Niagara 20th Septr, 1784.

continued

And affidavit Israel Roland to Joseph Browster, having been driven from home on acct. of his Loyalty to his having sold his property & his being robbed & murdered by Indians.

1,000 acres of Land at Kentucky near Ohio, he purchased just before the war of different people who had improvets on it.

Says she was never on these Lands, as her husband lived in Pensilvania until 1779. He sold that tract & fled or meant to go to Kentucky to live. On the way to Kentucky they were attacked & Landed at Port St. Vinvents, a French Village, where she lived 3 years & at last was brought to Canada by savages.

Trading Post, 5th July, 1757

N.B I find this was bought druing the war

Her husband was killed in this time

She says her Husband had been to Kentucky before the war to purchase Lands. Says that all their Property in Pensilvania had been spent in fines &c., & taken from them before they left that country excepting 2 Horses, 2 Cows, 14 barrels of flour & some furniture. The Horses & Cows were taken by the Indians. The flour was used or sold. The furniture sold for a House &c. at Port St. Vincent.

Produces Letter from Lt.-Coll. Connolly to his having been imprisoned with Joseph Browster in Pensilvania & to his being Possessed of a Farm in Westmoreland—to his being murdered by the Indians on his way to Detroit

Produce Notes, £336 Pen. Cury, due her husband.

This excerpt was found by simply reviewing the index for the city of Detroit. Each volume contains an index at the back of the book, which is fairly complete with family and place names being well noted. A fast scan for various surname spellings may indicate the location of your ancestors.

In the last volume, Alexander Fraser wrote:

Following the publication last year of the Minutes of the Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the Home District from 1800 to 1810, which revealed and emphasized the need of making accessible to the student of the history of Ontario the early municipal records of the Province, the series is continued this year by the publication of the Minutes of the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the London District from 1800 to 1809 and December 1813 to 1815.

In an era when history usually involved great men and swashbuckling adventures of the British Empire, the archivists from 1903 to 1933 stepped outside of that paradigm by collecting materials about everyday people. The last volume lists court activities concerning anything from assault and battery to treason in the Toronto area during the War of 1812. All parties, including jurors, are listed and all names can be found in the index.

Land, Loyalist, church, school, court and military records are just some of what you may find in the *Reports of the Bureau of Archives for the Province on Ontario*. As the samples indicate, the time periods covered are fairly early in Ontario's development and so may have a special interest to Michigan residents with links to Canada. While they are transcripts and not originals, they may save a Michigander a trip to Ottawa or perhaps encourage a long weekend trip to discover more. For further information, the Library of Michigan holds the following titles to aid you in your family research:

continued

Ontario Bureau of Archives, Alexander Fraser, [Ed.], *Report of the Bureau of Archives for the Province of Ontario Vols. 1-15*, Toronto: L.K. Cameron, 1903 – 1919.

Genealogy CD 3645 .O58 A1

Ontario Department of Archives, Alexander Fraser, [Ed.], Report of the Department of Public Records and Archives of Ontario Vol. 16, *Toronto: L.K. Cameron, 1920*

Genealogy CD 3645.O58 A1

Ontario Department of Public Records and Archives, Alexander Fraser, [Ed.], *Report of the Department of Public Records and Archives of Ontario Vols 17-22*: Toronto: L.K. Cameron, 1928 – 1933.

Genealogy CD 3645.O58 A1

Craig, Barbara L. and Richard Ramsey, [Eds.], *Guide to the Holdings of the Archives of Ontario Vols. 1-2*. Toronto: Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture, 1985.

Genealogy CD 3645.O58 G85

The First Three Years of the Michigan First Vital Records Act, Continued

by Charles Hagler, reference librarian

As I mentioned in the last issue of *Michigan Genealogist* (Volume 3, Number 4), the *Second Annual Report of the Secretary of State of the State of Michigan Relating to the Registry and Return of Birth, Marriages and Death* – under the supervision of Oliver L. Spaulding – named the oldest Michigan man and woman who died between April 5 and Dec. 31, 1868 and gave that same information for each of the counties in Michigan. This list provides a good illustration what you may find in early Michigan death records. In the interest of clarity, uniformity and brevity, I made some changes to the original list, but the information provided remains the same.

The two oldest male and female Michigan residents who died during that time frame were James Davis of Vermont, who died in Newaygo County at 109 years, 11 months and 2 days old; and Catharine O'Brien of Ireland, who died in Marshall, Calhoun County, at 106 years and 2 months old.

The following lists the oldest male and female by county who died between April 5 and December 31, 1868, their occupation, birthplace, cause of death, place of death, date of death and age at death. Some data will be missing because of omissions on the death records. The place of death may be a city, township or village.

Allegan - John Thayer, farmer, New York, old age, Casco, 25 October, 88 years. Serapta Haywood, Vermont, old age, Cheshire, 14 August, 82 years, 11 months, 14 days.

Alpena - James Millan, laborer, Ireland, consumption, Alpena, 30 December, 61 years. Olivia A. Spratt, Maine, childbirth, Alpena, 7 July, 28 years.

Antrim - Shabordone (Indian), Grand Traverse, Milton, 25 April, 70 years. Isabella McBeath, Scotland, old age, 97 years, 11 months.

Barry - Richard Young, farmer, Pennsylvania, old age, Carleton, 4 September, 85 years. Susannah Freeman, New York, old age, Thornapple, 12 September, 82 years, 5 months, 24 days.

Bay - John McPhail, Canada, bowel disease, Poor House, 7 April, 68 years. Mary Bard, Vermont, old age, Bay City, 12 April, 87 years.

Berrien - Samuel Torbert, Pennsylvania, old age, Saint Joseph, 1 May, 81 years. Deborah Haywood, Connecticut, old age, Benton, 27 October, 87 years, 7 months, 5 days.

Branch - Martin Fillapau, farmer, New York, dropsy, Bronson, 23 May, 88 years, 11 months, 27 days. Margaret Van Orsdale, old age, Quincy, 9 June, 94 years.

Calhoun - Christian Bochman, farmer, Tennessee, old age, Marengo, 29 December, 82 years, 2 months. Catharine O'Brien, Ireland, old age, Marshall, 1 April, 106 years, 2 months.

Cass - William R. Fitch, farmer, Vermont, sun stroke, Mason, 18 July, 87 years, 6 months. Achsah Warner, Massachusetts, congestion of the lungs, Volinia, 11 June, 81 years, 7 months, 12 days.

Charlevoix - Almon M. Ingalls, clerk, New York, diarrhea, **Illinois***, 10 October, 29 years, 2 months, 8 days. Agnes Graham, Ireland, 7 June, 66 years, 11 months, 18 days.

Cheboygan - Not mentioned.

Clinton - Fletcher Jenison, farmer, New York, old age, Eagle, 3 July, 88 years. Sarah Holden, weaver, New York, old age, Olive, 13 July, 89 years, 11 months, 24 days.

Eaton - William Lowell, farmer, Vermont, old age, Eaton Rapids, 25 April, 82 years, 8 months. Betsey Spaulding, New Hampshire, consumption, Roxand, 4 May, 75 years, 2 months, 15 days.

Emmet - John Madjiwijiwe, Indian hunter, old age, Little Traverse, 18 December, 90 years. Angelique Wabodjig, Indian, Emmet County, old age, Little Traverse, 30 September, 71 years.

Genesee - John Hart, carpenter, England, pneumonia, Mount Morris, 28 December, 81 years, 9 months, 14 days. Cynthia Vincent, Connecticut, consumption, Flint, 28 April, 86 years.

Grand Traverse - Nelson Andrew, farmer, Sweden, killed by fall a tree, Grant, 30 December, 40 years, 9 month, 27 days. Rosina Swaney, Pennsylvania, killed by threshing machine, Peninsula, 2 September, 58 years, 1 month, 23 days.

Gratiot - Michael Eggan, farmer, Ireland, 8 December, 89 years, 2 months, 21 days. Sophia Parmer, tailor, Massachusetts, dropsy, Arcada, 17 September, 82 years, 2 months.

Hillsdale - Bernard Cass, farmer, New Hampshire, old age, Woodbridge, 1 August, 93 years, 5 months, 26 days. Rose A. Wood, New York, old age, Scipio, 22 June, 96 years, 10 months, 13 days.

Houghton - John Sullivan, laborer, Ireland, killed, Calumet, 16 September, 60 years, 3 months. Mary Dunn, housekeeper, Ireland, consumption, 15 October, 48 years.

Huron - Reuben Dodge, laborer, Maine, fever sore, Caseville, 1 October, 73 years. Johannes Christina Wenchky, Prussia, stomach disease, 30 October, 57 years, 8 months, 11 days.

Ingham - George Reason, England, old age, Stockbridge, 1 April, 87 years. Hannah Horton, Massachusetts, cancer, Mason, 2 September, 94 years, 4 months, 16 days.

Ionian - Burk Gibbs, old age, **Port Huron****, 17 September, 84 years. Lucy A. Donovan, Vermont, old age, Boston, Michigan, 11 June, 87 years, 8 months, 5 days.

Iosco - David Fox, laborer, New York, paralysis, Alabaster, 10 November, 78 years, 8 months, 4 days. No female death reported.

Isabella - Hugh McCully, farmer, Ireland, disease of the bowels, Vernon, 13 April, 60 years, 2 months, 11 days. Electa Davis, Vermont, epilepsy, Coe, 21 September, 73 years, 6 months, 4 days.

Jackson - Asael King, farmer, old age, Rives, 4 April, 86 years. Roxana Snow, Connecticut, old age, Sandstone, 11 December, 89 years.

Kalamazoo - James Coats, farmer, England, pneumonia, Prairie Ronde, 27 April, 87 years, 7 months. Mrs. Moffatt, Massachusetts, old age, Kalamazoo, 22 September, 91 years, 1 month, 1 day.

Kent - Jedediah Riggs, farmer, Connecticut, old age, Ada, 7 July, 91 years, 11 months, 30 days. Sally Nichols, Vermont, old age, Algoma, 27 August, 85 years, 8 months, 2 days.

Lapeer - James P. Pitcher, farmer, Vermont, heart disease, Elba, November, 82 years. Catharine Reardon, Ireland, consumption, Dryden, 13 August, 82 years.

Leelanau - Adam Rikard, farmer, New York, old age, Centreville, November, 74 years. Madaline Stimel, Germany, old age, Bingham, 18 August, 85 years.

Lenawee - Ezra Thomas, farmer, New York, old age, Fairfield, 18 October, 94 years. Anna Smead, Massachusetts, old age, Adrian, August, 94 years.

Livingston - Walter Wright, farmer, New York, old age, Unadilla, 11 August, 85 years. Salona Stone, New York, old age, Deerfield, 17 December, 87 years, 6 months, 20 days.

Macomb - Henry Baker, pauper, New York, old age, Clinton, 16 April, 90 years. Elizabeth Hamilton, Scotland, old age, Bruce, 22 June, 83 years, 11 months, 20 days.

Manistee - Connel Gallaher, farmer, Ireland, consumption, Bear Lake, 30 June, 72 years, 6 months, 7 days. Antoinette Farnsworth, Michigan, typhoid fever, Brown, 25 August, 36 years.

Marquette - O. F. Swinson, laborer, Sweden, accident, Ishpeming, 25 November, 50 years. Mary Edmundson, Ireland, old age, Ishpeming, 7 August, 75 years.

Mason - Lawrence Whitaker, farmer, New York, consumption, Victory, 25 November, 68 years. Lucy A. Smith, Michigan, intermittent fever, Victory, 6 September, 35 years, 6 months, 7 days.

Mecosta - Dr. Thomas Owen, New York, accident, Big Rapids, 11 August, 89 years. Hannah Hyde, New York, old age, Big Rapids, 28 December, 86 years.

Menominee - Philip Hoeguarts, carpenter, Lower Canada, from a fall, Menominee, 8 November, 26 years, 2 months. Margaret Schultz, Germany, consumption, Menominee, 4 April, 46 years, 1 month, 9 days.

Midland - John Hurlbert, farmer, Vermont, consumption, Jasper, 19 December, 70 years, 2 months, 20 days. Mrs. John McCartney, Ireland, consumption, Midland City, 18 August, 59 years, 2 months.

Monroe - Peter Corcoran, farmer, Ireland, gravel, Ash, 5 August, 88 years. Grace Mortimore, England, old age Whiteford, 13 August, 88 years.

Montcalm - Martin Pierson, joiner, New York, consumption, Pierson, 6 November, 79 years, 5 months, 23 days. Sarah Winchell, Vermont, old age, Sidney, 21 September, 88 years.

Muskegon - John Squires, farmer, New York, typhoid fever, 17 October, 76 years, 4 months, 3 days. Martahable Stevens, Connecticut, old age, Eggleston, 28 September, 86 years.

Newaygo - James Davis, laborer, Vermont, old age, Ashland, 3 December, 109 years, 11 months, 2 days. Sophia Scranton, Vermont, heart disease, Big Prairie, 2 July, 73 years.

Oakland - John T. Wilcox, farmer, England, dropsy, Farmington, 12 July, 87 years, 8 months, 10 days. Abigail Stone, Vermont, old age, Commerce, 13 December, 85 years.

Oceana - Horace S. Pitcher, farmer, Connecticut, dropsy, Benona, 3 October, 69 years, 6 months, 18 days. Margaret Knapp, housekeeper, Canada, old age, Shelby, 20 May, 71 years.

Ontonagon - William Buck, laborer, Ireland, Rockland, diabetes, 21 May, 49 years. Mary Burns, Ireland, asthma, Rockland, 9 October, 70 years, 7 month.

Ottawa - Orange McClure, mason, old age, Wright, 26 December, 85 years. Susan Farwell, Connecticut, old age, Holland, 17 September, 88 years, 11 months.

Saginaw - Curtis Day, carpenter, New York, dysentery, Chapin, 12 September, 84 years, 5 months. Jenny Carter, New York, old age, South Saginaw, 25 August, 89 years, 1 month, 8 days.

Saint Clair - Robert Glassford, farmer, United States, old age, Mussey, 25 November, 83 years, 6 months. Mary Bullamy, England, old age, City of Saint Clair, 25 June, 85 years, 25 days.

Saint Joseph - John Schraman, carpenter, Germany, mortification, Sherman, 24 August, 88 years, 5 months, 11 days. Mrs. Blue, Pennsylvania, dropsy, Park, 18 July, 80 years.

Sanilac - Robert Booth, farmer, Ireland, killed by mill car, Washington, Michigan, 30 September, 67 years. Margaret Donald, England, old age, Marlette, 16 April, 87 years, 3 months, 16 days.

Shiawassee - William Kenney, mechanic, Connecticut, paralysis, Perry, 7 August, 81 years. Laura Wheelock, Connecticut, old age, Corunna, 18 December, 75 years.

Tuscola - Ira Pratt, farmer, New York, pneumonia, Juniata, 6 September, 78 years, 10 months, 26 days. Keturah A. Clark, New York, old age, County Poor House, 20 May, 85 years.

Van Buren - William Thompson, farmer, Connecticut, consumption, Pine Grove, 22 May, 93 years, 3 months, 2 days. Deborah Rhodes, Connecticut, typhoid fever, Columbia, 14 October, 78 years.

Washtenaw - Patrick Hagerty, wheelwright, Ireland, old age, Lyndon, 17 May, 87 years. Mary Sherwood, Ireland, old age, Superior, 21 October, 86 years, 9 months, 20 days.

Wayne - Richard Benton, farmer, England, old age, Monguagon, 10 April, 91 years. Charlotte Charboney, Detroit, dropsy, Detroit, 4 December, 95 years.

Wexford - Thomas D. Copley, farmer, Michigan, disease contracted in United States service, Wexford, 6 July, 32 years. Martha Pratt, suicide from insanity, Wexford, 26 November, 38 years, 4 months, 1 day.

*Here is a good example of a death that took place in another state being recorded on the Michigan death records.

**Another quirk of the Michigan death records is illustrated here by a death that took place in Saint Clair County being reported as an Ionia County death.

Source: *Second Annual Report of the Secretary of State of the State of Michigan Relating to the Registry and Return of Birth, Marriages and Deaths, From April 5th to December 31st, 1868 Inclusive*. Lansing,: John a. Kerr & Co., 1868. Pages 50-58.

Gifts of Stocks, Bonds or Mutual Funds

by Judith K. Moore, executive director, Library of Michigan Foundation

People give to charitable organizations, like the Library of Michigan Foundation, for various reasons. They do it to give something back, because they are committed to a particular cause or for the enjoyment of helping others. Besides their personal motive, it is also natural that donors will consider the tax benefits of their gift.

If you are considering a gift to the Library of Michigan Foundation, it may be to your advantage to give stocks, bonds or mutual funds instead of cash.

Any securities that you have owned for 12 months or more and that have increased in value since you bought them are subject to the capital gains tax if you sell them. However, if you make a gift of these securities to the Library of Michigan Foundation, you get a charitable deduction for the full fair market value as of the day of transfer and avoid the tax on the capital gain.

This allows you to make a gift using an asset that might have been considered frozen because of the capital gain that would be experienced if you sold it. Because you get a charitable deduction for the market value and avoid the capital gains tax, you are making a gift that saves taxes twice!

Example: Mary S. owns \$5,000 worth of WXY Corporation stock, which she purchased for \$2,000 three years ago. By donating this stock to the Library of Michigan Foundation, she receives a charitable deduction of \$5,000 and avoids tax on the \$3,000 of capital gain.

Each spring the Library of Michigan Foundation asks donors and library patrons to make a gift to support a better, stronger, more accessible Library of Michigan. Please contact Judith Moore at (517) 373-4470 or moorej10@michigan.gov to discuss a gift of stock or any other gift. Or send in your gift to: Library of Michigan Foundation, P.O. Box 30159, Lansing, Michigan, 48909. Thank you for your support.

Saving Their Husbands, One Saloon at a Time

by Robert Garrett, archivist, Archives of Michigan

Editor's note: This article originally appeared in Lansing's City Pulse newspaper (<http://www.lansingcitypulse.com>) on July 5, 2006. It is part of a series, written by Archives of Michigan staff, that explores Lansing's history.

Minnie Redmond had a mission: to keep her husband out of the bars.

On July 23, 1894, she petitioned the Lansing Common Council for help. She requested the Council “notify the saloons, hotels, drug stores or any other place or places where intoxicating liquor is sold. ...that they must not sell, give nor furnish my husband, Mr. James Redmond, with any such intoxicating liquors.”

Her request was less unusual than one might suppose; she was one of five wives within a two-year period to bring such petitions against their husbands.

In the 1890s, saloons were an omnipresent fixture of American life. By 1909, there was one licensed saloon for every 300 Americans, and an estimated 50,000 illegal, unlicensed saloons nationwide. Many saloons trafficked alcohol, as well as served it. The establishments were frequently linked with public drunkenness, violence, prostitution and political corruption.

Lansing was not immune to these problems. In 1900, there were about 40 saloons around the state Capitol alone. Some saloons were less reputable than others. The Council minutes for March 9, 1896, provide one example. On that date, the Council revoked the license of The Okalahoma saloon. The establishment was cited as “a rendezvous for characters which makes the place a menace to good order and the safety of our citizens.”

Concerns about liquor and the men who sold it fueled the 19th-century temperance movement. Temperance advocates initially favored moderate drinking and restrictions on alcohol sales, but as the movement gained ground, more adherents began stressing abstinence and even outright prohibition.

From 1873 until about 1900, women tended to dominate the temperance movement, and it's easy to see why; the 19th-century saloons catered almost exclusively to men, with prostitutes being the main exception. Domestic violence, wanton spending, abandonment and other improprieties often accompanied male alcohol abuse. Most wives were financially dependent on their husbands, so an alcoholic husband could drink a family into destitution. It was a time when divorces were uncommon, and wronged wives faced few legal options.

In late 1873, a church in Hillsboro, Ohio, sponsored a temperance lecture. About 80 women decided to meet in church the next morning. The women then marched double-file to downtown Hillsboro, where they sang and prayed in the saloons until the owners agreed to close them. Soon, women throughout the Midwest were following their example.

A headline in the February 20, 1874, *Lansing Republican* referred to “The Praying Crusade.” “The woman's war against king alcohol has at last struck Michigan at Sturgis,” the article reported. “Every saloon and druggery there was closed on Wednesday, and the saloon keepers and druggists all engaged to sell no more of the baneful drink.”



Drink in peace: A curtain from this unidentified saloon, believed to be in north Lansing, circa 1900, could be dropped to protect thirsty patrons from the prying eyes of passersby.

The article also reported that similar movements seemed to be starting in Flint, Adrian, Saginaw, Lapeer and Monroe.

“Mr. Hudson of the Lansing House [a large hotel and saloon located at the present site of the Knapp’s building] in this city has received an anonymous notice that he will be called on next Tuesday by some of the ladies; to pray and sing him out of the liquor traffic,” the article reported.

A national organization known as the Woman’s Christian Temperance Union formed soon after. Abigail B. Hasty, a 66-year-old described by the union as “a timid, godly woman,” organized the Lansing chapter. She sent a notice to area churches and asked them to read it on Sunday, March 21, 1874. The notice invited “all the women who were interested in the suppression of the liquor traffic” to meet at the Central Methodist Church the following Tuesday. According to the Temperance Union’s own history (penned in 1949), 60 women attended. That same night, the new union members attended the Lansing Council meeting and requested that only “dry” candidates appear on the next election’s ballot.

The Temperance Union continued attempts to close saloons. At the time, Michigan was technically under Prohibition. (A state Prohibition law was passed in 1855 but rarely enforced; the number of saloons in Detroit alone tripled during the first 12 years of the law.) On April 6, 1874, the Temperance Union drafted an official petition requesting saloonkeepers “conform to the humane and righteous law forbidding the [liquor] traffic.” They formed a committee to visit saloons. Any saloons refusing to close would to be visited by a second committee of women and legal authorities.

In this manner, the union claimed to have closed 26 of the town’s 44 saloons. The prohibition law was repealed in 1875, and the tactic seems to have ended around that time.

Nonetheless, Temperance Union members continued to work for their cause. They sponsored prayer meetings and mass public meetings. They asked area ministers to deliver temperance sermons in their churches and use only unfermented wine for communion. They lobbied for “dry” legislation and successfully campaigned to ban liquor sales at the state fair. They placed water barrels in front of stores so that thirsty patrons would be less tempted to enter saloons. (Public drinking water wasn’t readily available at the time.)

In 1902, Temperance Union members dedicated a memorial fountain to Frances Willard, the former president of the national Temperance Union. The fountain was originally located at the corner of Washington and Michigan avenues, and later moved to Potter Park.

Following the temperance explosion of the mid-1870s, the movement continued to have its ups and downs. It languished in the late 1880s and 1890s, but then Prohibition began gaining support in the early 20th century. The 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution established national Prohibition in 1920, and the amendment was repealed in 1933. The Lansing Woman’s Christian Temperance Union remained active throughout it all.



Kids enjoy some educational fun and get a closer look at our state's past at the Michigan Historical Museum.

History Will Be Hot — at the Summer Sizzles Day Camp!

by Martha Aladjem Bloomfield, community relations liaison, Michigan Historical Museum

“History will, once again, be hot as the Michigan Historical Museum presents its annual Summer Sizzles Day Camp,” said Camp Director Jo Anne Arasim. “Day-campers will experience a unique perspective on the past — enjoy stories of real artifacts and people and discover their connection to history — while having fun.”

Summer Sizzles Day Camp, now in its ninth year, offers a variety of programming for children ages 9 to 12.

“We’re also very excited that for the first time this summer, we will offer a new short session for younger children,” Arasim said.

This year’s camp sessions encourage students to discover interesting ways of interpreting Michigan’s history as well as explore topics that impacted Michigan and the world.

Instructors include well-known folk musician Wanda Degan, who will help youth understand the importance of music in the lives of Michigan people and discover their musical talents. Retired journalist Hugh Leach will teach children about being a newspaper reporter and how to write an account of events featured in one of the museum galleries.

Youth can also:

- learn cartooning and create cells detailing an event in Michigan’s history;
- explore the impact of the Vietnam War and honor Michigan’s citizens who lost their lives in service to their country; and
- examine Michigan’s involvement in the Civil War.

Weeklong, half-day sessions will take place:

- June 16-20, 9 a.m. to noon
- June 23-27, 1 to 4 p.m.
- July 14-18, 9 a.m. to noon
- August 4-8, 1 to 4 p.m.

Special daylong programs on Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War and on archaeology will take place in mid-August. Genealogy Sprouts sessions will be at 9 a.m. to noon Friday, June 20 and 1-4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 8.

A new three-day session for younger children will take place on July 22-24 from 9 a.m. to noon.

For additional information, please contact Jo Anne Arasim at (517) 373-1905 or arasimj@michigan.gov.



Publisher's Note:

The Michigan Department of History, Arts and Libraries (HAL) electronically publishes *Michigan Genealogist* on a quarterly basis. It is intended to provide family history-related information to interested researchers and to inform readers about resources found in the Library of Michigan, Archives of Michigan and other HAL agencies.

We encourage wide distribution of this newsletter and invite readers to share it with their friends, families and fellow researchers. We have made every effort to provide accurate information. However, the publisher does not assume any liability to any party for any loss or damage caused by errors or omissions related to any of the issues of *Michigan Genealogist*.

If you would like to be added to our list of e-mail subscribers, please contact HAL at librarian@michigan.gov.

Driving Directions and Parking:

Information concerning driving directions and parking can be located at the following Web sites.

Driving Directions:

<http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160—55205,00.html>

Parking:

http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17445_19274_20001—,00.html

Research:

Due to the length of time needed to conduct genealogical research, the staff of the Library of Michigan and Archives of Michigan are unable provide extensive research services. Check the Library of Michigan and Archives of Michigan Web pages at <http://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan> and <http://www.michigan.gov/archivesofmi> for more information on policies and procedures regarding genealogical research.

Ask A Librarian:

Genealogy queries can be sent to the Library of Michigan at librarian@michigan.gov.

While staff members cannot do extensive research, they can point you in the right direction and assist you in determining if the library's collection contains the information you seek. If necessary, the library's staff will refer you to a researcher or local genealogical society that will conduct research for a fee.

Questions relating to the Archives of Michigan should be sent to archives@michigan.gov.

Learning More at the Library of Michigan, a free genealogy seminar, drew more than 300 people to the Library on March 29 to explore online tools for family history research.

"This was a great day for the Library of Michigan," Special Collections Manager Randy Riley said. "It is inspiring to welcome so many returning and first-time visitors to the Library. These people of varying levels of experience have in common a passion for family history and a desire to keep building their research skills. We're pleased to offer genealogists the latest search tools and tips for using them."

Family history researchers from throughout Michigan, including some from the Upper Peninsula, came to Lansing for the Learning More seminar.

With six sessions offered during three time slots, genealogists had several choices: using HeritageQuest Online, census research with HeritageQuest and Ancestry Library Edition, passenger list research, vital records on the Internet, using Footnote.com at the Library of Michigan and the Family History Archive Collection.

"The information was awesome," one participant wrote on the program evaluation. "I have run into some roadblocks and can now forge ahead with the new information that I received today."

Participants also praised bibliographies of recommended Web sites, real-life research examples and online search tips.

PDFs of the PowerPoint slides and hand-outs from Learning More seminar are available online. Go to www.michigan.gov/familyhistory and click on the link Genealogy Workshops.